

CLAIMS

1. An access tower comprising a base, a scissor lift means having a lower end mounted on the base, a working platform mounted at the upper end of the scissor lift means and means for applying a force to the lower end of the scissor lift means to urge the scissor lift means into an extended condition.
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2. An access tower as claimed in claim 2 wherein the means for applying a force comprises biasing means acting on the lower end of the scissor lift means which urge the scissor lift means into an extended condition.
3. An access tower as claimed in claim 2 wherein the biasing means acts only
10 on the lower end of the scissor lift means.
4. An access tower as claimed in claim 3 or 4 wherein the biasing means comprises spring means.
5. An access tower as claimed in claim 4 wherein the spring means comprises tension spring means and/or compression spring means.
6. An access tower as claimed in claim 4 or 5 wherein the spring means acts
15 on a mounting which is movably mounted on the base.
7. An access tower as claimed in claim 6 wherein the mounting comprises a block which is slidably disposed with respect to the base.
8. An access tower as claimed in claim 7 wherein the block is slidably
20 disposed in a hollow frame member forming part of the base.
9. An access tower as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 8 wherein the biasing means applies a force which compensates for at least 75% of the effort required to raise the access lower to an erected condition.

10. An access tower as claimed in claim 9 wherein the biasing means applies a force which compensates for substantially 100% of the effort required to raise the access tower to an erected condition.

11. An access tower as claimed in any one of the previous claims further comprising support means for providing structural support to the scissor lift means in the extended condition.

12. An access tower as claimed in claim 11 wherein the support means comprises at least one telescopically extendible leg, extendible between a stowed condition and at least one predetermined extended condition.

13. An access tower as claimed in claim 12 wherein the extendible leg has a plurality of predetermined extended configurations so as to accommodate varying heights of the working platform relative to the base.

14. An access tower as claimed in claim 12 wherein the support means comprises a pair of telescopically extendible legs.

15. An access tower as claimed in any one of claims 11 to 14 wherein the support means is mountable on the access tower.

16. An access tower as claimed in claim 15 wherein the support means is pivotally mounted on the access tower.

17. An access tower comprising a base, scissor lift means having a lower end mounted on the base and a working platform mounted at the upper end of the scissor lift means, the scissor lift means comprising two spaced-apart lazy tongs assemblies and further comprising a plurality of laterally extending bars extending between the two lazy tongs assemblies.

18. An access tower as claimed in claim 17 wherein the laterally extending bars extend between load-supporting members on each of the two lazy tongs assemblies.

19. An access tower as claimed in claim 18 wherein the laterally extending bars form a pivot for each of the two lazy tongs assemblies.

20. An access tower as claimed in any one of claims 17 to 19 wherein the scissor lift means comprises a laterally-extending bar mounted on a linkage connected to one or both of the lazy tongs assemblies which causes the bar to rise and fall with the scissor lift means.

21. An access tower as claimed in claim 20 wherein the linkage may comprise two parallelogram linkages located one on each of the lazy tongs assemblies.